



Office of The Chief Electrical Inspector

G U I D E L I N E S

for the Application of the

Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 1999 (as amended) - Prescribed Electrical Installation Work

The Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 1999 were amended on 1 February 2001.

The amendment states: -

For the purpose of section 45 of the Act, "prescribed electrical installation work" does not include –

- (a) the repair or maintenance of a single component part of an electrical installation; or*
- (b) the replacement of a single component part of an electrical installation by an equivalent component part at the same location.*

Previously, except where varied by an Order-in-Council, whenever any prescribed electrical installation work involving the installation, alteration, repair or maintenance of prescribed electrical installation work was completed, a Certificate of Electrical Safety for prescribed electrical installation work was required to be issued and the work inspected by a Licensed Electrical Inspector before connection to electricity supply.

The amendment now substitutes a new Regulation 406, including Regulation 406(1), which defines prescribed electrical installation work for the purposes of Section 45 of the Electricity Safety Act 1998. Regulation 406(2) amends the definition of prescribed electrical installation work to exclude the repair or maintenance (including replacement) of a single component part of an electrical installation. The term 'single component part', in general, means one part of an electrical wiring system, e.g single switch or fuse on a switchboard assembly.

In effect, any electrical installation work covered by Regulation 406(2) does not require the responsible person (REC, Licensed Electrician etc) to have the relevant electrical installation that is repaired, maintained or replaced in accordance with this Regulation to be inspected before use and re-connection to electricity supply by a licenced electrical inspector, however, a Certificate of Electrical Safety for non-prescribed electrical installation work must be issued at the completion of that work.

Electrical Installation Workers should, when carrying out this type of work, clearly indicate on the Certificate of Electrical Safety for non-prescribed electrical installation work in the area for the description of electrical work that;

“THIS WORK HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF REGULATION 406(2).”

Note: A responsible person carrying out prescribed electrical installation work which involves the initial installation or subsequent alteration of that work must still issue a Certificate of Electrical Safety at the completion of that work and ensure that the work is inspected by a licenced electrical inspector.

The commissioning and periodic testing of electrical equipment which does not involve the physical disconnection of any conductor or component part of an installation such as, residual current device, line isolation monitor, isolation transformer installed in cardiac/body protected areas as per AS/NZS 3003:1999 or a high voltage circuit breaker is not deemed to be electrical installation work.

The following examples are intended to clarify some of the more common instances where Regulation 406 may apply and what type of Certificate of Electrical Safety must be issued when carrying out electrical installation work.



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P - Prescribed Electrical Installation Work in accordance with Regulation 406(1)
NP - Non-Prescribed Electrical Installation Work in accordance with Regulation 406(2)

1. MAINS CONNECTION BOX (Fused or Non-Fused)

Repair to cable at a mains connection box.	NP
Repair of connection at a mains connection box.	NP
Replacement of a single component consumers main connection box in the <u>same</u> location (e.g. to allow for fascia replacement or wall cladding installation).	NP
Replacement of a single component consumers main connection box in a <u>different</u> location.	P
Replacement of 55-amp single component consumers mains box with an 80-amp box in the <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of a 55-amp single component box with 80-amp consumers mains box in a <u>different</u> location.	P
Replacement of single component un-fused mains connection box with a fused mains box in <u>same</u> location.	NP

2. CONSUMERS' MAINS – GENERAL (including, Submains of Multiple Installations)

Repair to conductor insulation or conductor, (e.g. joint in conductor at junction box).	NP
The replacement of an entire section of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in <u>exactly the same</u> location (identical route).	NP
The replacement of an entire section of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
The replacement of an entire section of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in <u>exactly the same</u> location (identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P

3. CONSUMERS' MAINS – UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINES

Repair to conductor insulation or conductor, (e.g. joint in conductor at junction box)	NP
The replacement of consumers mains by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	NP
The replacement of consumers mains (or submains of a multiple installation) by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
The replacement of consumers mains of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	P
The replacement of consumers mains of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P

4. CONSUMERS' MAINS – PRIVATE OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINES

Repair to severed or damaged overhead conductor, (e.g. approved joint in conductor).	NP
Restraining overhead conductor.	NP



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Replacement of single component aerial component hardware, (e.g. insulator, cross-arm brace, stay, pole cap, etc).	NP
Re-securing aerial component hardware, (e.g. tightening insulators, cross-arm braces, struts, pole caps etc).	NP
Replacement of <u>more</u> than 30% of overhead conductor by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> in the <u>same</u> route location in a high bushfire risk area – <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	NP
Replacement of <u>more</u> than 30% of overhead conductor by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> in the <u>same</u> route location in a high bushfire risk area – <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	P
Replacement of <u>less</u> than 30% of overhead conductor by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> in the <u>same</u> route location in a high bushfire risk area.	NP
Replacement of <u>less</u> than 30% of overhead conductor by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> in the <u>same</u> route location in a high bushfire risk area.	P
Replacement of a single component circuit protective devices of <u>same</u> current carrying capacity at the <u>same</u> location, (e.g. circuit breaker, fused mains box).	NP
Installation of a circuit protective device for the first time at origin of circuit, (e.g. circuit breaker, fused mains box).	P
Replacement of a pole in the <u>same</u> location, which constitutes <u>less</u> than 30% of the total number of poles in the line in a high bushfire risk area.	NP
Replacement of a pole in a <u>different</u> location, which constitutes <u>less</u> than 30% of the total number of poles in the line in a high bushfire risk area.	P
Replacement of a pole in the <u>same</u> location, which constitutes <u>more</u> than 30% of the total number of poles in the line in a high bushfire risk area – <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	NP
Relocation of an existing pole in a high bushfire risk area – <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	P
Installation of a new pole in a high bushfire risk area – <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	P
Replacement of a cross arm.	NP
Temporarily staking defective pole, using approved re-instatement technology - <i>only where permitted by an OCEI exemption.</i>	NP

5. MAIN EARTHING SYSTEM

Disconnection/reconnection of existing conductor termination at earth electrode.	NP
Repair to earthing conductor.	NP
Replacement of an earth conductor of the <u>same</u> size and in the <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of an earth conductor of larger or smaller <u>size</u> and in the <u>same</u> location.	P
Replacement of an earth conductor of <u>same</u> size and in <u>different</u> location.	P
Installation of an earth electrode for the first time.	P
Replacement of an earth electrode in <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of an earth electrode in <u>different</u> location.	P

6. METER ENCLOSURE & CUSTOMER PROVIDED EQUIPMENT (Equipment not owned by Electricity Supplier)

Replacement of meter box enclosure in <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of meter box enclosure in <u>different</u> location.	P



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7. SWITCHBOARD – MAIN (including switchboards installed in individual occupancies of multiple installations)

Relocation of an existing main switchboard.	P
Replacement of a main switch with another switch of the <u>same</u> current rating in the same location.	NP
Replacement of a main switch with another switch of <u>different</u> current rating in the same location.	P
Installation of an additional main switch, (e.g. to allow for off-peak tariff equipment connection).	P
Relocation of main switch on the main switchboard.	P
Replacement of the main neutral link with another link of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity in the same location.	NP
Replacement of the main neutral link with another link of <u>different</u> current carrying capacity in the same location, (e.g. replacing existing neutral link with limited connecting terminals to allow for additional circuits).	P
Replacement of an existing main switchboard assembly with another main switchboard assembly in the <u>same</u> location, (e.g. replacing panel and frame type switchboard with a circuit breaker type switchboard).	P
Replacement of main switch with a combined RCD/MCB (Residual Current Device / Miniature Circuit Breaker type).	P
Repair of a consumers mains conductor termination (i.e. on the line side of a main switch or at a neutral link).	NP
Installation of an RCD on the line side of a main switch.	P
Installation of single component surge protection device on the line side of a main switch.	P
Replacement of single component surge protection devices on the line side of a main switch in the same location.	NP
Installation of single component surge protection devices on the load side of a main switch in the same location.	NP

8. EQUIPMENT IN HAZARDOUS AREAS (including protection equipment associated with hazardous areas)

Repair to conductor insulation or conductor in hazardous areas, (e.g. joint in conductor).	NP
Repair to conductor connection at electrical equipment in hazardous areas.	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating and/or hazardous area classification characteristics where the cable termination does not involve re-routing of the original cable - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating and/or hazardous area classification characteristics where the cable termination <u>involves</u> re-routing of the original cable.	P
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>different</u> current rating and/or hazardous area classification characteristics - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	P
Replacement of single component control, isolation or protection devices of the <u>same</u> current rating and/or hazardous area classification characteristics in the <u>same</u> location - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	NP
Replacement of single component control, isolation or protection devices of the <u>same</u> current rating and/or hazardous area classification characteristics in a <u>different</u> location - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	P
Alteration of a cable route in a hazardous area.	P
Replacement of protection equipment associated with hazardous areas of the <u>same</u> current rating in <u>same</u> location - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	NP
Replacement of protection equipment associated with hazardous areas of the <u>same</u> current rating in a <u>different</u> location - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	P
Alteration of single component protection equipment associated with hazardous areas - <i>where permitted in accordance with Clause 2.7 of AS/NZS 2381.1:1999.</i>	P



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9. HIGH VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT

Repair to high voltage conductor insulation or conductors.	NP
Repair to high voltage conductor connections at equipment.	NP
Replacement of single component high voltage electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating where the cable termination does not involve re-routing of the original cable.	NP
Replacement of single component high voltage electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating where the cable termination <u>involves</u> re-routing of the original cable.	P
Replacement of single component high voltage electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating and <u>same</u> protection characteristics, (e.g. circuit breaker).	NP
Replacement of single component high voltage electrical equipment of the <u>same</u> current rating and <u>different</u> protection characteristics, (e.g. circuit breaker).	P
Replacement of single component high voltage control, isolation or protection devices of the <u>same</u> current rating in the <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of single component high voltage control, isolation or protection devices of the <u>same</u> current rating in a <u>different</u> location.	P
Replacement of an entire section of high voltage cable by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity and <u>same</u> fault level rating in exactly the <u>same</u> location, (identical route).	NP
Replacement of an entire section of high voltage cable by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
Replacement of an entire section of high voltage cable of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity and <u>same</u> fault level rating to a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
Replacement of one of the following single components of high voltage equipment of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity and fault level rating (where applicable) in the same location, <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Lightning Arrester* Overhead conductor support structure* Overhead conductor support structure cross-arm* Fuse assembly* Transformer* Insulator* Power factor correction equipment (capacitor bank)* Insulating mediums (oil) within transformer, circuit breaker, capacitor bank etc.	NP
Replacement of commutator brushes on high voltage motor – by use of tools.	NP
Replacement of slip rings on high voltage motor.	NP
Maintenance of slip rings or commutator/s on high voltage motor.	NP

10. STANDBY / COGENERATION EQUIPMENT

The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
The replacement of an entire section of an <u>identical wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	NP
The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally	P



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installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	
Repair to conductor insulation or conductors.	NP
Repair to conductor connections at electrical equipment.	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>same</u> current rating, (e.g. protection, control, etc).	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>different</u> current rating.	P

11. STAND ALONE POWER SYSTEMS

Repair to conductor connection at electrical equipment.	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>same</u> current rating, (e.g. protection, control, etc).	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>different</u> current rating.	P
Repair to conductor insulation or conductor.	NP
The replacement of an entire section of a <u>similar wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	NP
The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P

12. ELECTRIC FENCES (SECURITY PURPOSES)

Repair to conductor insulation or conductor.	NP
Repair to conductor connection at electrical equipment.	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>same</u> current rating, (e.g. energizers, ancillary, protection, control equipment, etc).	NP
Replacement of single component electrical equipment of <u>different</u> current rating, (e.g. energizers, ancillary, protection, control, equipment etc).	P
The replacement of an entire section by use of a <u>similar wiring system</u> of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	NP
The replacement of an entire section of a wiring system by use of a <u>different wiring system</u> .	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in exactly the <u>same</u> location (identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of the <u>same</u> current carrying capacity installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
The replacement of an entire section of wiring system of <u>lesser or greater</u> current carrying capacity than originally installed in a <u>different</u> location (non-identical route).	P
Installation or alteration of fence.	P
Replacement of fence in <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of fence in <u>different</u> location.	P
Replacement of physical barrier in <u>different</u> location.	P



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Installation or alteration of physical barrier in <u>same</u> location.	NP
Replacement of physical barrier in <u>same</u> location.	NP

13. ELECTRO MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Repair to conductor insulation or conductor.	NP
Repair to conductor connection at electrical equipment.	NP
Replacement of electrical equipment of <u>same</u> current rating, (e.g. socket outlet, residual current device, line isolation monitor, circuit breaker, isolating switch, isolating transformer, EP terminal, theatre lighting, etc).	NP
Replacement of electrical equipment of <u>different</u> current rating, (e.g. socket outlet, residual current device, line isolation monitor, circuit breaker, isolating switch, isolating transformer, EP terminal, etc).	P
Installation of electrical equipment, (e.g. socket outlet, residual current device, line isolation monitor, circuit breaker, isolating switch, isolation transformer, EP terminal, etc).	P
Alteration of electrical equipment, (e.g. socket outlet, residual current device, line isolation monitor, circuit breaker, isolating switch, isolating transformer, EP terminal, etc).	P
